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Paper No.

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**MAY 17 2004**

**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

In re Application of  
Kara Webster, Roger Seiver and  
John Hawkins  
Application No. 10/667,143  
Filed: September 19, 2003  
Attorney Docket No. 2737.DHE.NP  
Title: Trailer Hitch Guide

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: DECISION REFUSING STATUS  
: UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.47(a)  
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This is a decision on the "PETITION TO ACCEPT DECLARATION WITH MISSING INVENTOR," filed February 17, 2004 (Certificate of Mailing February 12, 2004).

The petition is **DISMISSED**.

Rule 47 applicant is given **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this decision to reply, correcting the below-noted deficiencies. Any reply should be entitled "Request for Reconsideration of Petition Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.47(a)," and should only address the deficiencies noted below, except that the reply may include an oath or declaration executed by the non-signing inventor. **Failure to respond will result in abandonment of the application.** Any extensions of time will be governed by 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).

The above-identified application was filed on September 19, 2003, without an executed oath or declaration (and missing the statutory basic filing fee). Accordingly, on December 12, 2003, applicants were mailed a "Notice to File Missing Parts of Nonprovisional Application," requiring submission of an executed oath or declaration and payment of the surcharge for late filing under § 1.16(e) (and payment of the statutory basic filing fee). This Notice set a two month period for reply, with extensions of time obtainable under § 1.136(a).

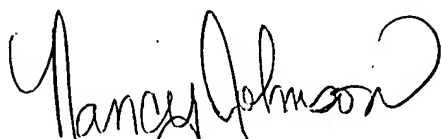
In response, rule 47 applicants timely filed the instant petition, along with payment of the petition fee, and late surcharge (and the basic filing fee for a small entity). On petition, applicants assert that status under § 1.47(a) is proper because inventor Hawkins has failed to return the signature documents for the application, despite repeated requests from Applicants' counsel.



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Telephone inquiries related to this decision may be directed to the undersigned at (703) 305-0309.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nancy Johnson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Nancy Johnson  
Senior Petitions Attorney  
Office of Petitions